

State Workforce Innovation Council
November 29, 2007, 10:00AM
Indiana Government Center South, Conference Room C
Indianapolis, Indiana

Present: Rep. Randy Borrer, Brian Burton, Gina DelSanto, Andy Goebel, Jim Hemmelgarn, Leroy Jackson Jr., Rob Jeffs, Peter Kissinger, Jim McClelland, Cathy Metcalf, Paul Perkins, Jac Price, Derek Redelman, Patty Shutt, Mark C. Smith, Noah Sodrel, M. Alan Stahl, Bill Stanczykiewicz, Diane Swift and Teresa Voors.

Present via phone: Jac Padgett, Mark Maassel

Absent: Gov. Mitch Daniels, Cathy Delgado, Sen. Jeff Drozda, Harold Force, Jim Gislason, Sen. Glenn Howard, Al Huntington, Terry Rodino, Mitch Roob, Robert Schaefer, and Beth Washington.

Also present: From the Indiana Department of Workforce Development: Martin Morrow, Chief Operating Officer, John Ruckelshaus III, Deputy Commissioner, Governmental Affairs, Scott Sanders, Chief Financial Officer, Dustin Stohler, General Counsel, Dale Wengler, Deputy Commissioner, Policy and Field Operations, Amy Smith-Rubeck, Director of Policy, and Betty Culley, Program Policy. Also, present were John Corcoran, Regional Operator for Region 8, and Sue Honcharuk, Program Manager for the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG)-Indiana program.

Welcome and Opening Business - DWD Commissioner Teresa Voors called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. She announced that SWIC Chairperson V. William Hunt had resigned, and that Governor Daniels had appointed SWIC Board Member, Paul Perkins, as SWIC Chair. She announced that Region 9 would not be presenting today, as scheduled on the agenda, due to a mix-up about presentation time.

Mr. Perkins called the roll of SWIC members and a quorum was present.
The minutes from the June 7 and August 11 meetings were unanimously approved.

Resolution 06-07 Amend the SWIC Bylaws to Add a Vice Chairman to the SWIC Bylaws

Mr. Perkins stated the next agenda item was to consider adding a Vice Chairman to the SWIC Bylaws to lead meetings in the absence of the Chair. In regard to this item, Commissioner Voors announced two new persons on her team were attending today's meeting. Marty Morrow is the new Chief Operating Officer. Dustin Stohler is DWD's new Chief Counsel and counsel to the Board. Mr. Stohler passed out copies of the proposed SWIC Bylaws with changes made to Article VI, Sections 3 and 4, and Article IX, Section 3, adding a vice chairman. The members voted unanimously to approve the Bylaws' change.

Resolution 07-07 Approval of the Addendum to Workforce Investment Act State Plan submitted to the U. S. Department of Labor by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development

Ms. Amy Smith-Rubeck, DWD Director of Policy, explained the next agenda item to Approve the Addendum to the State Plan. The U. S. Department of Labor had asked that DWD make changes to the submitted Workforce Investment Act (WIA) State Plan, Modification 3 in effect through June 30, 2009. A handout about the addendum was distributed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the WIA State Plan Addendum. The vote was unanimous.

Resolution 08-07 Approval of Region 5 Regional Workforce Board Certification

Ms. Smith-Rubeck reported that Region 5's Regional Workforce Board had submitted their strategic plan. After a review by DWD, Region 5 had been asked to align their plan further with the State's plan, especially to increase training services. Commissioner Voors added that the SWIC serves as the Balance of State Workforce Investment Board and Region 5's plan and the other regional plans previously approved by the SWIC were part of the Balance of State Workforce Investment State Plan. A motion was made and seconded to approve the certification. The vote was unanimous.

Apprising SWIC of Thirty Day Public Comment Period for the Balance of State Workforce Investment Board Plan

Commissioner Voors reported that the entire Balance of State Workforce Investment Board Plan, consisting of the eleven approved regional workforce board plans, was now posted on the SWIC webpage for a thirty-day public comment period as required by the Workforce Investment Act. At the February 7, 2008 SWIC meeting, the State Workforce Innovation Council as the Balance of State Workforce Investment Board will vote on acceptance of this entire plan which will include the incorporation of public comments received during the posted comment period. She requested that Betty Culley send out an e-mail to all SWIC members regarding the posting of the plan and the specific website address.

Ms. Smith-Rubeck presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding Common Measures, the locomotive to drive integration. She reported that the core purpose of the Workforce Investment Act was to break down barriers, merge programs, be more efficient and reduce confusion. In Common Measures, the term "participant" covers all 48 employment and training programs that the White House's Office of Management and Budget under Mitch Daniels proposed to have streamlined under the same set of performance measures.

Presently, IDWD is seeking a waiver of the core indicators of performance and customer satisfaction measures required in WIA at Section 136(b)(2) and (c)(1) as well as the accompanying regulations in Section 666.100(a) and 663.300(a). On the SWIC webpage is an announcement about this waiver and the thirty-day public comment period regarding the Indiana Department of Workforce Development adopting Common Measures. The U. S. Department of Labor will review the request. If it is approved, the waiver will be retroactive to July 1, 2007. Ms. Smith-Rubeck took questions from board members regarding performance measures. Commissioner Voors stated that adopting common measures would mean eliminating fourteen measures and shrinking the number of measures to three for adults and dislocated workers.

John Corcoran, Regional Operator for Region 8, began his presentation by showing a marketing film created voluntarily by an individual who had participated in DWD's Strategic Skills Initiative (SSI). Mr. Burton commented that the film was technically well done, but it showed declining manufacturing when in fact the companies highlighted were manufacturing companies. Mr. Corcoran said the film had not been released to the public.

Mr. Corcoran presented a PowerPoint presentation elaborating that Region 8 was all about collaboration and integration and that the region contracts with only one service provider. Mr. Corcoran answered questions from board members about the mix of Region 8 funding. Mr. Corcoran reported that Region 8 is working to bring all siloed staff together which involves lots of staff training.

Mr. Sodrel noted that life sciences are emphasized, but he asked what the Department has done to focus on small business. Commissioner Voors said DWD has done Training Acceleration Grants (TAG) since 2005, and they have increased 33%. Another new initiative for the Department is procuring a new job matching system which will be a huge asset for small businesses. Mr. Sodrel said that life sciences/pharmaceuticals are obviously important and we need manufacturing. Commissioner Voors said she had recently met with David Johnson regarding Bio-Crossroads initiatives, that DWD's Strategic Skills Initiative runs the gamut of manufacturing, and that DWD is working with Conexus. Mr. Sodrel said he supports existing industries, but not everyone is suited to life sciences. With the realization that people have different skills sets, the council may not have a good grasp about who is coming into a WorkOne. He would like to understand the process and how they help people without jobs.

Commissioner Voors said that DWD's job is to raise everyone up one level. DWD is looking at SSI. Factory workers can earn transferable certificates. DWD is pinpointing several areas for a continuum of services. Paul Perkins stated that there are lots of things going on, but the person on the street may not know about the programs. Commissioner Voors said a better marketing campaign is planned.

Mr. Sodrel said there is a need to educate the board members. Perhaps a Workforce 101 would be helpful and that members need education here to make a connection to the WorkOne system and give members a different perspective. The Commissioner responded that it was on her agenda, and that between quarterly meetings, members might go out and look at a region.

Sue Honcharuk gave a presentation on JAG Indiana, the Jobs for America's Graduates program in Indiana. She reported that 12 schools were piloted last year. Regional operators contract with service providers who provide persons in schools to teach employability and other skills to students directly in the schools. During the first year, 96.6% of the seniors in the JAG program graduated from high school. With the program, many students have a mentor in the first year after high school.

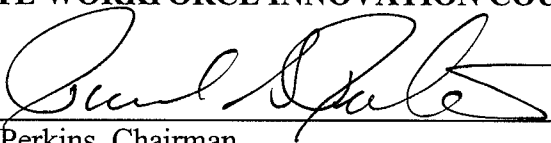
Commissioner Voors commented that the Governor brought the JAG program into Indiana and DWD hopes to expand the program to other students at risk. Ms. Honcharuk said that schools want JAG providers in their schools. There is a wonderful collaboration between schools, employers and service providers. There is a national system of data collection. A conversation ensued with members about specifics of the program and possible expansion efforts.

Dale Wengler, Deputy Commissioner of Policy and Field Operations, gave a presentation regarding integration. He explained why DWD offices need to integrate and reported that a new Integration Policy had been issued. He presented a Customers' Bill of Rights: the right to know their skills, the right to improve their skills, and the right to find the best job that matches their skills when they come to WorkOne offices. DWD's anticipated new web-based job matching system will be part of raising everyone up one level and that DWD will train more people. A member responded that this strategy will affect performance numbers, and they will go down. The Commissioner reported that Department of Labor officials had been told this, but that DWD hopes to adjust its goals for the standards. DWD is working on a marketing plan to additional people and to the underemployed, plus a product line is being developed.

Mr. Perkins asked if there were public comments. There were none.

Commissioner Voors ended by saying that she had spoken individually to several board members. She asked that the members send their thoughts about possible field trips between meetings, subjects for a broad overview at meetings or other suggestions regarding board activities to Betty Culley. As there was no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

STATE WORKFORCE INNOVATION COUNCIL



Paul Perkins, Chairman

02/07/08
Date

ATTEST:



Teresa L. Voors, Commissioner
Indiana Department of Workforce Development